Remarks

A Notice of Allowance for the immediate parent application, Serial No. 10/143,962, was mailed November 5, 2003. The issue fee is being paid concurrently with the filing of the present continuation application.

The specification has been amended to insert a cross reference to all of the parent applications, and also to add headings for the BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION and DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION, as was done in the parent application.

Original claims 1-9 have been replaced by new claims 10-27. These new claims are supported by the specification in general, and more specifically page 3, line 15 to page 4, line 2 from the bottom; page 6, lines 6-15; page 7, lines 13-15; and the working examples (the nicotine embodiment of claims 20 and 24 is disclosed in Example 5).

Respectfully submitted,

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